

E-FILED: 06/18/12

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

ILYA PODOBEDOV, ET AL.

Plaintiff(s),

vs.

LIVING ESSENTIALS, LLC., ET AL.

Defendant(s).

CASE NO.: CV 11-6408-PSG (PLAx)

**ORDER FOR JURY TRIAL:**

**Final Pretrial Conference:  
07-15-13 at 2:30 p.m.**

**Trial Date:  
07-30-13 at 9:00 a.m.**

**UNLESS OTHERWISE ORDERED BY THE COURT, THE FOLLOWING  
RULES SHALL APPLY:**

**SCHEDULING**

**1. In General**

All motions to join other parties or to amend the pleadings shall be filed and served by the cut-off date specified in the Scheduling Order.

**2. Motions for Summary Judgment or Partial Summary Judgment**

Motions for summary judgment or partial summary judgment shall be filed as soon as practical, however, in no event later than the motion cut-off date.

### 3. Discovery Cut-Off

The Court has established a cut-off date for discovery in this action. All discovery shall be complete by the discovery cut-off date specified in the Scheduling Order. **This is not the date by which discovery requests must be served; it is the date by which all discovery is to be completed.**

In an effort to provide further guidance to the parties, the Court notes the following:

#### a. Depositions

All depositions shall be scheduled to commence sufficiently in advance of the discovery cut-off date to permit their completion and to permit the deposing party enough time to bring any discovery motion concerning the deposition prior to the cut-off date.

#### b. Written Discovery

All interrogatories, requests for production of documents, and requests for admission shall be served sufficiently in advance of the discovery cut-off date to permit the discovering party enough time to challenge (via motion practice) responses deemed to be deficient.

#### c. Discovery Motions

Whenever possible, the Court expects the parties to resolve discovery problems among themselves in a courteous, reasonable, and professional manner. The Court expects that counsel will strictly adhere to the Civility and Professional Guidelines adopted by the United States District Court for the Central District of California in July 1995.

Discovery matters are referred to a United States Magistrate Judge. **Any motion challenging the adequacy of responses to discovery must be filed timely, and served and calendared sufficiently in advance of the discovery cut-**

1 **off date to permit the responses to be obtained before that date, if the motion is**  
 2 **granted.**

3 Consistent resort to the Court for guidance in discovery is unnecessary and  
 4 will result in the appointment of a Special Master at the joint expense of the parties  
 5 to resolve discovery disputes.

#### 6 **4. Mandatory Settlement Conference**

7 Pursuant to Local Rule 16-15, the parties in every case must select a  
 8 settlement procedure. The final meeting with the parties' settlement officer must  
 9 take place no later than 45 days before the Final Pretrial Conference.

### 10 **FINAL PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE ("PTC")**

11  
 12  
 13 This case has been placed on calendar for a Final Pre-Trial Conference  
 14 pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16 and 26. Unless excused for good cause, each party  
 15 appearing in this action shall be represented at the Final Pre-Trial Conference, and  
 16 all pre-trial meetings of counsel, by the attorney who is to have charge of the  
 17 conduct of the trial on behalf of such party.

18 **STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENT OF**  
 19 **FED. R. CIV. P. 16, 26 AND LOCAL RULES ARE REQUIRED BY THE**  
 20 **COURT.** Therefore, carefully prepared Memoranda of Contentions of Fact and  
 21 Law, a Joint Witness List, and Joint Exhibit List shall be submitted to the Court.  
 22 The Joint Witness List shall contain a brief statement of the testimony for each  
 23 witness, **what makes the testimony unique** from any other witness testimony, and  
 24 the time estimate for such testimony. The Joint Exhibit List shall contain any  
 25 objections to authenticity and/or admissibility to the exhibit(s) and the reasons for  
 26 the objections.

1 The Memoranda of Contentions of Fact and Law, Witness List, and Exhibit  
2 List are due twenty-one (21) days before the Final Pre-Trial Conference.

### 3 4 **FINAL PRETRIAL CONFERENCE ORDER ("PTCO")**

5  
6 The proposed PTCO shall be lodged seven calendar days before the PTC.  
7 Adherence to this time requirement is necessary for in-chambers preparation of the  
8 matter. The form of the proposed PTCO shall comply with Appendix A to the  
9 Local Rules and the following:

10 1. Place in "all caps" and in "bold" the separately numbered headings  
11 for each category in the PTCO (*e.g.*, "**1. THE PARTIES**" or "**7. CLAIMS AND**  
12 **DEFENSES OF THE PARTIES**").

13 2. Include a table of contents at the beginning.

14 3. In specifying the surviving pleadings under section 1, state which  
15 claims or counterclaims have been dismissed or abandoned, *e.g.*, "Plaintiff's  
16 second cause of action for breach of fiduciary duty has been dismissed." Also, in  
17 multiple party cases where not all claims or counterclaims will be prosecuted  
18 against all remaining parties on the opposing side, please specify to which party  
19 each claim or counterclaim is directed.

20 4. In specifying the parties' claims and defenses under section 7, each  
21 party shall closely follow the examples set forth in Appendix A of the Local Rules.

22 5. In drafting the PTCO, the court also expects that the parties will  
23 attempt to agree on and set forth as many non-contested facts as possible. The  
24 court will usually read the uncontested facts to the jury at the start of trial. A  
25 carefully drafted and comprehensively stated stipulation of facts will reduce the  
26 length of trial and increase jury understanding of the case.

27 6. In drafting the factual issues in dispute for the PTCO, the parties

1 should attempt to state issues in ultimate fact form, not in the form of evidentiary  
 2 fact issues. The issues of fact should track the elements of a claim or defense on  
 3 which the jury will be required to make findings.

4 7. Issues of law should state legal issues on which the court will be  
 5 required to rule during the trial and should not list ultimate fact issues to be  
 6 submitted to the trier of fact.

## 7 8 **TRIAL PREPARATION FOR JURY TRIAL** 9 **MOTIONS, INSTRUCTIONS AND EXHIBITS**

### 10 11 **1. MOTIONS IN LIMINE**

12 All motions *in limine* must be filed and served a minimum of forty-five (45)  
 13 days prior to the scheduled trial date. Each motion should be separately filed and  
 14 numbered. All opposition documents must be filed and served at least twenty-five  
 15 (25) days prior to the scheduled trial date. All reply documents must be filed and  
 16 served at least ten (10) days prior to the scheduled trial date.

17 All motions *in limine* will be ruled upon on or before the scheduled trial  
 18 date.

### 19 20 **2. JURY INSTRUCTIONS/SPECIAL VERDICT FORMS**

21 Thirty-five (35) days before trial, plaintiff shall serve plaintiff's proposed  
 22 jury instructions and special verdict forms on defendant. Twenty-eight (28) days  
 23 before trial, defendant shall serve on plaintiff defendant's objections to plaintiff's  
 24 instructions together with any additional instructions defendant intends to offer.  
 25 Twenty-one (21) days before trial, plaintiff shall serve on defendant plaintiff's  
 26 objections to defendant's instructions. Twenty-one (21) days before trial, counsel  
 27 are ordered to meet and confer to attempt to come to agreement on the proposed  
 28

1 jury instructions. The parties shall make every attempt to agree upon the jury  
2 instructions before submitting them to the Court. It is expected that counsel will  
3 agree on the substantial majority of jury instructions.

4 Sixteen (16) days before trial, counsel shall file with the Court a JOINT set  
5 of jury instructions on which there is agreement. Defendant's counsel has the  
6 burden of preparing the joint set of jury instructions. At the same time, each party  
7 shall file its proposed jury instructions which are objected to by any other party,  
8 accompanied by points and authorities in support of those instructions.

9 When the parties disagree on an instruction, the party opposing the  
10 instruction must attach a short statement (one to two paragraphs) supporting the  
11 objection, and the party submitting the instruction must attach a short reply  
12 supporting the instruction. Each statement should be on a separate page and  
13 should follow directly after the disputed instruction.

14 The parties ultimately must submit one document, or if the parties disagree  
15 over any proposed jury instructions, three documents. The three documents shall  
16 consist of: (1) a set of Joint Proposed Jury Instructions; (2) Plaintiff's Disputed  
17 Jury Instructions; and (3) Defendant's Disputed Jury Instructions. Any disputed  
18 Jury Instructions shall include the reasons supporting and opposing each disputed  
19 instruction in the format set forth in the previous paragraph.

20 The Court directs counsel to use the instructions from the *Manual of Model*  
21 *Jury Instructions for the Ninth Circuit* where applicable. Where California law is  
22 to be applied and the above instructions are not applicable, the Court prefers  
23 counsel to use the California Jury Instructions in CACI. If none of these sources  
24 is applicable, counsel are directed to use the instructions in Devitt, Blackmar and  
25 Wolff, *Federal Jury Practice and Instructions*.

Modifications of instructions from the foregoing sources (or any other form instructions) must specifically state the modification made to the original form instruction and the authority supporting the modification.

Each requested instruction shall be set forth in full; be on a separate page; be numbered; cover only one subject or principle of law; not repeat principles of law contained in any other requested instructions; and cite the authority for a source of the requested instruction. In addition to the foregoing, each party shall file with the Courtroom Deputy on the first day of trial a "clean set" of the aforesaid requested duplicate jury instructions in the following form: Each requested instruction shall be set forth in full; be on a separate page with the caption "COURT'S INSTRUCTION NUMBER \_\_\_\_"; cover only one subject or principle of law; and not repeat principles of law contained in any other requested instruction. The "clean set" shall not cite the authority for a source of the requested instruction. Counsel shall also provide the Court with a CD in WordPerfect format containing the proposed jury instructions.

An index page shall accompany all jury instructions submitted to the Court. The index page shall indicate the following:

- the number of the instruction;
- a brief title of the instruction;
- the source of the instruction and any relevant case citation; and
- the page number of the instruction.

***EXAMPLE:***

<u>NO.</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
5	Evidence for Limited Purpose	9 <sup>th</sup> Cir. 1.5	9

1  
2 During the trial and before argument, the Court will meet with counsel and  
3 settle the instructions. Strict adherence to time requirements is necessary for the  
4 Court to examine the submissions in advance so that there will be no delay in  
5 starting the jury trial. **Failure of counsel to strictly follow the provisions of this**  
6 **section may subject the non-complying party and/or its attorney to sanctions**  
7 **and SHALL CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL in all civil cases.**  
8

9 **3. TRIAL EXHIBITS**

10 Counsel are to prepare their exhibits for presentation at the trial by placing  
11 them in binders which are indexed by exhibit number with tabs or dividers on the  
12 right side. Counsel shall submit to the Court an original and one copy of the  
13 binders. The exhibits shall be in a three-ring binder labeled on the spine portion  
14 of the binder as to the volume number and contain an index of each exhibit  
15 included in the volume. Exhibits must be numbered in accordance with Fed. R.  
16 Civ. P. 16, 26 and the Local Rules.

17 Exhibit list shall indicate which exhibits are objected to, the reason for the  
18 objection, and the reason it is admissible. Failure to object will result in a waiver  
19 of objection.  
20  
21  
22

23 The Court requires that the following be submitted to the Courtroom  
24 Deputy Clerk on the first day of trial:


- 25 • The original exhibits with the Court's exhibit tags shall be stapled to  
26 the front of the exhibit on the upper right-hand corner with the case  
27 number, case name, and exhibit number placed on each tag. Exhibit  
28



tags can be obtained from the Clerk's Office, Room G-8, 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

- One bench book with a copy of each exhibit for use by the Court, tabbed with numbers as described above. (Court's exhibit tags not necessary.)
- Three (3) copies of exhibit lists.
- Three (3) copies of witness lists in the order in which the witness may be called to testify.
- Counsel are ordered to submit a short joint statement of the case seven (7) days before trial that the Court may read to the prospective panel.
- All counsel are to meet no later than ten (10) days before trial and to stipulate so far as is possible as to foundation, waiver of the best evidence rule, and to those exhibits which may be received into evidence at the start of trial. The exhibits to be so received will be noted on the copies of the exhibit lists.
- Counsel may, but need not, submit brief proposed voir dire questions for the jury seven (7) calendar days before the Pretrial Conference. The Court will conduct its own voir dire after considering any proposed voir dire submitted by counsel.
- Any items that have not been admitted into evidence and are left in the courtroom overnight without prior approval will be discarded.

1  
2  
3 DATED: June 18, 2012  
4

5  
6 

7 PHILIP S. GUTIERREZ  
8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27